

## SECTION 10

### ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

#### LOCAL JURISDICTION PROVIDING RESOURCES

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##### Provisions of Statute

“Mobilization” means that fire fighting resources beyond those available through existing agreements will be requested and, *when available*, sent in response to an emergency or disaster situation that has exceeded the capabilities of available local resources. During a large scale emergency, mobilization includes the redistribution of regional or state-wide fire fighting resources to either direct emergency incident assignments or to *assignment in communities where fire fighting resources are needed*. RCW 38.54.010 (emphasis added).

##### 10.1 Intent of Statute

- **“when available”**

The statute and the *Mobilization Plan* both provide for the mobilization of resources “when available”. If an apparatus or equipment resource must be backfilled, then it is unavailable and is not to be mobilized. “When available” means that there is no requirement to provide fire resources in response to a state mobilization request, and that no replacement or backfill apparatus will be provided to a local fire protection jurisdiction that has committed apparatus to a state fire resources mobilization. If a backfill apparatus is requested, the mobilized apparatus will be demobilized and returned as soon as possible; no replacement will be authorized.

- **“assignment in communities where fire fighting resources are needed”**

“Assignment in communities where fire fighting resources are needed” is a provision intended to allow for area or regional redistribution of resources to maintain minimum community fire protection and optimal utilization of local and regional resources at the emergency incident (taking advantage of local apparatus capabilities, local personnel training and experience, and local community resource commitment). A MIC or Area Incident Commander may assign available mobilized resources to achieve basic minimum local fire protection in communities that are under protected because of their deep commitment of resources to the major emergency incident(s). The concept is one of wider and deeper move-up of fire resources, and in doing this, resources are assigned as required to both incident and coverage needs. This provision is not to be construed as authorization for backfill apparatus except as it may make critical or specially qualified resources available for mobilization.

##### 10.2 Available Resources

Local jurisdictions must maintain a current list of resources available for state fire resources mobilization, with the understanding that no provision is allowed for backfilling or replacing mobilized resources during their absence (except as specifically provided in the *Mobilization Plan* for line firefighters as required to maintain staffing obligations).

The list of resources available should be reviewed annually and must be provided to the Regional Fire Resource Coordinator.

### 10.3 Preparation

Maintain:

- List of available resources.
- Reference copy of the *Washington State Fire Services Resource Mobilization Plan*.
- Contact procedures for the Regional Fire Resource Coordinator.
- Decision mechanism for sending resources.

### 10.4 Mobilized Resources

#### • Time Commitment

A state mobilization assignment may be up to 14 days, plus travel time.

The minimum time commitment for personnel is 72 hours. A fire agency may, at its option, arrange for partial or full crew replacements after 72 hours.

- Notice (minimum of 24 hours) of the intended crew change must be provided to the Incident Commander and the Incident Commander must approve of the change.
- Crew changes must be coordinated to occur during unassigned incident time.

Note: There are limitations on the reimbursement of costs incurred in making crew changes (see Section 14.4.4).

#### • Personnel

Mobilized personnel must be:

- Minimum of 18 years old.
- Trained, qualified, and experienced in the positions for which they are mobilized.

Example: For a wildfire assignment (including structural protection), NWCG "Red Card" qualification or equivalent is required.

- Fully equipped with required personal protective equipment (PPE) and safety equipment.

Example: Includes fire shelter for wildland firefighter.

- Physically conditioned and fit to perform the tasks assigned.

Example: Fitness requirement for wildland firefighter is arduous.

#### • Apparatus

Mobilize reliable and serviceable units.

Units found to be unreliable and/or unsafe may be decommissioned by the Ground Support Unit at any time. Decommissioned units are not eligible for any payments until returned to service by the Ground Support Unit. Utilize Optional Form 296, Vehicle/Heavy Equipment Safety Inspection Checklist (see Appendix F).

### 10.5 Private Contract Fire Resources

Private contract resources may contract with a local fire protection jurisdiction, and under the terms and conditions of that agreement become a resource of that jurisdiction. These private contract resources may then be mobilized as fire protection jurisdiction resources. In such a case, the resource is seen and identified as from the local fire protection jurisdiction, and the *Mobilization Plan* governs all practices, payment conditions, and rates, just as it does for all other state mobilization resources.

Under certain conditions and consistent with the State's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan, the State EOC may order and/or contract for commercially available resources as needed by competent local authority to alleviate threats to life, property, and the environment.

## **10.6 Mobilization Assembly**

- For immediate need resources, respond immediately without assembly.
- For planned-need resources, adhere to mobilization assembly time commitment of 2-hour maximum.
- Personnel and equipment must be prepared for a minimum 72-hour deployment. Refer to Appendix D.2 for the Recommended Strike Team / Task Force Travel Kit.

## **10.7 Forms and Information Required at Incident Check-In**

The MOBE 5-2 form, Mobilization Manifest, (see Appendix G.1) must be completed and will be required for incident check-in.

To streamline the incident check-in process and assure that all information is accurate, all state mobilization resources are to arrive at the incident with resource-specific information (MOBE 5-2 form, Mobilization Manifest, Appendix G.1) already completed.

In addition, information shall be provided at incident check-in to the Finance Section for personnel and resource costs.

## **10.8 Communications**

Communication links are vital and must be ensured (utilize Appendix E.3).

- The VHF radio spectrum will be primary on state fire mobilization incidents.
- All state mobilization resources must have programmable VHF radio capability.
- All units of a strike team / task force must have common communications other than REDNET (153.830 MHz) or OSCCR (156.135 MHz).
- Strike team / task force leaders must have REDNET (153.830 MHz), the specified communications link with the Division Supervisor (unless otherwise specified in the Incident Communications Plan).

REDNET may be utilized as a command frequency within divisions and between divisions and operations.

OSCCR may be used for on-scene communications as needed and directed by the Incident Commander.

## **10.9 After-Action Report**

Provide input for the after-action report.